

ABSTRACT

A diffractive element used in conjunction with a grating to move a desired order beam off-axis, thereby reducing interference by undesired orders. Use of the off-axis grating allows a more uniform beam in the presence of manufacturing defects, such as etch
5 depth errors. The diffractive element used with the off-axis grating may include a beam shaper, a one-dimensional beam splitter, or a two-dimensional beam splitter.